# Medicines Optimisation intervention brief

## Title of intervention:

Alfresed<sup>®</sup> Syrup 7.5mg/5ml or 30mg/5ml as preferred brand of alimemazine oral solution 7.5mg/5ml or 30mg/5ml

#### WHAT?

Prescribe Alfresed<sup>®</sup> Syrup 7.5mg/5ml or 30mg/5ml instead of alimemazine oral solution 7.5mg/5ml or 30mg/5ml.

### WHY?

- Alfresed<sup>®</sup> Syrup has a lower acquisition cost than generically prescribed alimemazine oral solution, therefore switching to this brand will save NHS resources
- Potential annual savings resulting from a switch to this brand across South West Hampshire and North and Mid Hampshire are in the order of £40K.

Generic Product	Brand Name	Pack Size	Tariff Price	Brand Tariff Price
Alimemazine 7.5mg/5ml oral solution	Alfresed 7.5mg/5ml Syrup	100ml	£179.58	£89.00
Alimemazine 30mg/5ml oral solution	Alfresed 30mg/5ml Syrup	100ml	£243.51	£99.00

### WHO?

- Patients currently prescribed alimemazine oral solution.
- Patients prescribed a sugar-free preparation should be excluded.

### TIPS

- Alimemazine is an antihistamine occasionally used in primary care.
- Not on the local CCG formulary, it should only be prescribed under the guidance of a specialist and kept under regular review
- It is licensed in adults and children over 2 years old for the *second-line* treatment of urticaria and pruritus.

## HOW?

- Use the provided clinical system search to identify all patients currently prescribed alimemazine oral solution 7.5mg/5ml and 30mg/5ml
- Review prescribing and ensure the patient has ongoing regular specialist reviews.
- If appropriate, agree a process for switching patients with the practice.
- Switch all appropriate patients to Alfresed<sup>®</sup>Syrup.
- Communication with the patient/carer is essential.

## SO WHAT?

- All patients will receive a consistent brand of alimemazine oral solution.
- Savings will be realised which can be reinvested for the benefit of patient care.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

1. Summary of Product Characteristics Alfresed<sup>®</sup> 30mg Syrup SPC Alfresed<sup>®</sup> 7.5mg Syrup SPC

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